



# Embracing your country lot

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**The way a home interacts with the land it's built on can be key to embracing the inside-outside lifestyle so many Western Australians hold dear.**

With the State Government pushing towards infill development and urban density, the trend in Perth in recent years has been towards narrow-lot living and maximising space through extensions.

This style of build requires careful thought when it comes to land interaction, as there is often limited space to work with, though larger lots often require considerations of their own.

While typically offering more space to work in, The Rural Building Company and WA Country Builders Principal Designer Robert Kirkovski said there was an art to building on

a large, country-style block.

The Rural Building Company recently won Building Designer of the Year at the HIA-CSR South West Housing Awards for its Evolution Farmhouse display at Cowaramup.

The home sits on an expansive country block of 30m by 50m and makes the most of it from the outset.

A 25m frontage – more than double some metropolitan area lots – means the home's interior spaces gain plenty of exposure to the outdoors, with ample windows blending the serene surrounds with the interior.

Views back and front are maximised throughout the home, with natural tones used which tie in with the surrounding greenery.

Mr Kirkovski said the surrounds were a major consideration for both brands in designing their homes to suit country lots.

"The Rural Building Company and WA Country Builders always consider design for the local landscapes in which we build, to ensure an affinity with the locality of the area," he said.

"Having a strong connection to the local geography is something I feel gives us relevance and a unique appeal, character and emotion – these are all traits our customers appreciate and value."

In the Evolution Farmhouse, features such as a backyard fire pit, rainwater tank and native plants to the garden encourage interaction with the environment, while the external facade's use of an earthy and warm colour palette – afforded by use of materials such as stone, timber and concrete – lend it a striking but cohesive aesthetic against its iconic country setting.

Mr Kirkovski said the home was designed to be contemporary and cutting edge, while channelling the spirit of the traditional farmhouse suited to its lot.

All told, Rural Building Company and WA Country Builders picked up eight gongs at the HIA-CSR South West Housing Awards this year, with the Evolution Farmhouse also winning the Golden Key Award for Display Home of the Year.

The Evolution Farmhouse is located at 5 Brookside Boulevard, Cowaramup and is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-5pm.

## CONTACT

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The Evolution Farmhouse display by The Rural Building Company.